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FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1920.

**THE CONVENTION**

As we go to press, the Democratic convention is "marking time." waiting for the platform committee report. All of the favorite sons, including Senator Simmons, have been named before the convention, and it is thought balloting will start either late this afternoon or early Saturday morning. The favorites seem to be McAdoo and Palmer, with a strong probability of the former being chosen the nominee against his will. Should a "dark horse" be necessary to break a deadlock between the leading candidates, it is thought either John W. Davis, Ambassador to Great Britain, or Bainbridge Colby, Secretary of State, will be nominated.

A clear-cut declaration for the League of Nations will be made in the platform, and the committee is also being urged to report favorably on a light wine and beer plank. Secretary Colby, one of the administration spokesmen, has declared for this issue, but William J. Bryan will fight it to a finish. Several planks calling for progressive legislation, will be incorporated in the platform; which, it is now believed, will be the exact antithesis of the puerile, colorless platform of the Republicans.

The administration has controlled the convention from the outset. Every mention of President Wilson's name has been greeted with enthusiastic and prolonged applause, which is more than ample proof that he is still the dominating figure in the party ranks. Should he desire a third term, he could be the nominee.

The Waxhaw Enterprise takes a very uncharitable attitude towards Mr. Morrison because of his "poverty," going so far as to charge him with being "a self-confessed business failure." When the possession of wealth is a prime qualification of an office-seeker, then pity the great mass of ordinary folks. It might interest The Enterprise to know that six years ago Mr. Morrison assumed obligations of a close associate to the amount of \$17,000, all of which he has since paid. Surely there are greater possessions than wealth. Gratitude and friendship are more priceless heritages.

**ABOUT KINGDOM OF COTTON**

The Growth and Importance of Textiles Since Eye Began to Think of Clothes—The Demand Has Outgrown the Supply.

Addressing the North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers' Association in Asheville the past week, Mr. Theodore H. Price, of New York, said in part:

We are justified in assuming that Adam was not worried about the high cost of living until he had eaten that famous apple and he and Eve began to think about clothes. From that time to this, the art and business of making textiles has grown until it is to-day the most important industry in the world.

It is prehistoric, and the story of its growth is literally woven into the history of our civilization. Very early in its development it became specialized. The duty of spinning was assigned to the unmarried women or "spinsters," because it did not require the attention or concentration that was necessary in the "weaving," or wives who did the weaving. This was, however, before the days of the automatic loom.

Yes, the textile industry is a very ancient and honorable one. In its beginnings it antedates civilization, and to its present development it generates a trade that employs the physical and mental energy of an amazingly large number of people.

But it was not until cotton was commercialized through the invention of the cotton gin and the spinning frame that the textile industry came to occupy the place that it does to-day, and although it is hardly more than one hundred years since we now take it for granted that a cotton became available in quantity constantly increasing supply is assured and are enlarging our manufacturing capacity and our use of cotton goods accordingly.

While the history of civilization sustains the belief that whenever there is an overwhelming need a means to meet it is found, it is also true that between the acuteness of the need and its satisfaction there is often an aching and distressful hiatus against which society might have protected itself if it had been more forehanded. It is for such forehandedness in the matter of cotton supply sufficient to keep their spindles going and meet the world's requirements that I would plead with the cotton manufacturers to-day.

Cotton—gun cotton made from the hitherto despised linters—may be said to have won the war. The

automobile industry is dependent on cotton for the fabric in its tires and the "fabrikoid" with which its cars are upholstered and its tops are made.

The tobacco crop needs millions of yards of cotton cloth to protect it and our hospitals would be crippled without absorbent cotton bandages. Most of our rubber hose is made of cotton and there is a suspicion that the same thing is true in respect of most of our woolen goods. Flannels have been made of cotton ever since the "Revolution" at Greensboro became successful, and those who have passed Concord in the night must have realized as they heard the "Canon" booming there that cotton towels have now entirely displaced those that were formerly supposed to have been made of linen. Lard and olive oil are made of cotton seed oil. The cotton seed are used for fertilizer and for bread, and even the paper money that we at present spend so lavishly is made of cotton mixed with silk.

I will not go into figures, but in the United States alone we now consume about seven million bales, or three billion and five hundred million pounds of cotton annually, which is at the rate of thirty-five pounds apiece for each man, woman and child in the country. The number about one billion and six hundred million persons, if they all consumed as much cotton as we do in America, one hundred and twelve million bales of five hundred pounds each would be required to supply them, whereas less than twenty million bales are now grown, and the production appears to be decreasing rather than increasing.

It is this tendency toward a decrease in cotton production to which I would specially direct your attention, for it imperils the enormous investment that the cotton manufacturing industry represents and unless it is reversed, must ultimately bring prices for goods to a point that will reduce the demand below the output upon which the prosperity of the mills is conditioned.

It is all very well to say that the law of supply and demand will correct the situation. It does not seem to do so. Sixteen years ago the United States produced more cotton than it will in the season upon which we are now entering, and in the interval the price of cotton has risen from less than ten to more than forty a pound. Until within the last decade a price of over twelve cents a pound seemed to work an increase in production but lately this has not been the fact.

Various explanations are offered for what seems to be a case of arrested development. I cannot bring myself to believe that there is no profit in growing cotton at forty cents a pound, or that other crops pay so much better than they are grown in preference. The Agricultural Department recently published a very exhaustive study of the cost of cotton production during the season of 1918, which showed that it ranged from eight cents to one dollar and seven cents per pound and averaged twenty-three cents. No, the trouble seems to be social rather than economic.

Why should not a group of cotton spinners get together and organize a cotton plantation just as you organize a mill, with a plantation village instead of a mill village, in which the farm laborers and their families should be provided with the comforts and amusement that other city dwellers enjoy, and from which the workers could be taken out each morning in automobile vans to the fields, where they would be expected to work intensively, but no longer than your factory hands work? For overtime when it was necessary they should be paid at the same rate that their co-laborers in the city receive.

**No Business Man in the Hall of Fame**

Not a single business man is represented in the Hall of Fame.

Why? One hundred and thirty-six years ago Rowell asked Dr. Samuel Johnson "What is the reason we are angry at a trader's having opulence?" and the latter answered: "Why, sir, the reason is (though I don't undertake to prove that there is a reason) we see no qualities in trade that should entitle a man to superiority."

We are not angry at a soldier's getting riches because we see that he possesses qualities that we have not. If a man returned from battle having lost one hand, and with the other full of gold, we feel that he deserved the gold; but we cannot think that a fellow sitting all day at his desk is entitled to get above us.

"A merchant may perhaps be a man of enlarged mind, but there is nothing in trade connected with an enlarged mind."

The same feeling still lurks in the popular mind to-day.

It is surprising how little regard the average man on the street has for the qualities which make for success in business. A man like James Hill may build a railroad and open up thousands of miles of country; Cecil Rhodes may develop a continent; Marshall Field may create the greatest retail merchandising institution in the world; Julius Rosenwald may penetrate every hamlet in the United States with his mail order business; Cyrus H. K. Curtis may make a national weekly of a defunct magazine; F. W. Woolworth may dot a thousand cities with his five-and-ten-cent stores; John D. Rockefeller may carry American oil to every part of the world; Henry Ford may revolutionize manufacturing methods—

But— Their names do not live after them. The impression persists that business is a dignified form of thievery. Profits are regarded as so much loot taken from the other fellow.

Possibly at one time there was a reason for this attitude, but the ethics of trade to-day are as honorable as those of any other calling.

One cannot imagine modern business being conducted along the lines of the old-time horse trade, where it was a case of each party scheming to make the other fellow lose.

Abe Lincoln's famous horse trading is an illustration of the way of

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- 25c Gibson 32-inch Ginghams. One Solid Case for this week, beautiful patterns.....25c

### 50c Windsor Crinkle Crepes

- All Colors, Pink, Light Blue and White ---- 35c
- 50c Quality Pique at.....39c
- 35c Quality Bed Ticking.....25c
- 36-inch Pajama Checks, extra special.....25c

### New Shipment of Colored Voiles

2000 Yards of 40-inch Colored Voiles, extra special for this week, beautiful patterns at.....39c

### Extra Values in Ladies' Vests

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- Ladies Vest.....15c

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Good Selection, any stout size, \$5.00, \$7.95, \$9.50

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Just received, a new line of Satin Pumps and Theo Ties.....\$11.50

doing business that is now happily discarded for good.

As the story runs, Abe came up against a fellow who had the reputation of being the sharpest man in a horse trade in that section of the country.

This man, thinking he would have easy picking with the green young lawyer, dared him to make a deal in horses.

To his delight, Abe consented, on the condition that they trade "sight unseen." When the deal came off half the town was on hand to see who would be "stung."

The trader led out his horse. A howl of delight went up from the crowd. It was the sorriest looking nag in the country—skinny, spavined, sway-backed, and very aged. It looked as if Lincoln were beaten hands down.

"Well, sir," said Abe, "we agreed to trade, and trade 'sight unseen,' and I'm willing to stick by the agreement." He disappeared in the barn. A moment later he returned, bringing—a wooden horse.

The laugh was on the professional trader, and Abe led off his nag in triumph.

In modern business, the basis for success is service, and real service is of necessity based upon genuine interest in the other fellow. Every transaction must be mutually profitable; the buyer must be as well satisfied as the seller.

That is the ideal and practice of most business men.

That the public is so lacking in appreciation of the service of business men is due to a failure to understand the principles of business. We can look for a change when the practices of business become more standardized and the school and universities begin earnestly to train young men and women for business careers.

In the meantime, business men must go ahead, doing the jobs that should be done, and letting the credit or discredit fall where it will.

**Summer School at Lenoir**

The approved summer schools of the State are over run. Many teachers have been turned away because they were unable to secure accommodations. The State Department of Education has made arrangements for an approved summer school at Lenoir College, Hickory, N. C. This school will open July 12th. Several hundred teachers can be accommodated at Lenoir College. If there are any teachers in Union County who failed to register at some State school, they will have an opportunity to attend the school at Hickory.

Hickory is at the foothills of the mountains and the climate is excellent. It is much cheaper to attend a school of this sort when teachers can live in the college buildings. Teachers who are interested in having their certificates raised at this summer school write President J. C. Peery, Hickory, N. C.

It might be that still other approved Summer School will be established in the State before the summer is over.—Ray Funderburk, County Superintendent.



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